

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
ATLANTA DIVISION**

DONNA CURLING, *et al.*

*Plaintiffs,*

v.

BRAD RAFFENSPERGER, *et al.*,

*Defendants.*

CIVIL ACTION

FILE NO. 1:17-CV-2989-AT

**STATE DEFENDANTS' RESPONSE TO THE LIMITED MOTION TO  
INTERVENE BY R. KYLE ARDOIN, in his official capacity as the  
LOUISIANA SECRETARY OF STATE**

During the November 19, 2021 status conference when discussing Curling Plaintiffs' and Dr. Halderman's request to disclose Dr. Halderman's expert report to CISA, the Court stated, "we're not going to be disseminating [Dr. Halderman's report] all over -- to anyone and anyone who somehow has some interest in it." Hearing Tr. at 90:24-91:2. Relying on public filings and statements by Dr. Halderman in declarations, the Louisiana Secretary of State, R. Kyle Ardoin ("Intervener"), seeks to intervene in this case now for the limited purpose of obtaining Dr. Halderman's sealed expert report. [Doc. 1243]. Dr. Halderman's purported reference to the voting machines used for

early voting in Louisiana is not a reason to grant Intervener's motion under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 24(b). *See* [Doc. 1243 at 1].

Permissive intervention under Rule 24(b)(1)(B) requires Intervener to have a *claim* or *defense* that shares a common question of law or fact with this case or a right to intervene under a federal statute. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 24(b)(1). Because Intervener does not have a claim or defense that shares with the main action a common question of law or fact, permissive intervention under Rule 24(b)(1)(B) is not appropriate. Likewise, Intervener does not have a conditional right to intervene by a federal statute for intervention under Rule 24(b)(1)(A). And although Intervener is a state governmental officer, the claims in this action are based solely on constitutional questions. Intervener does not have a *claim* or *defense* based on either a statute or executive order administered by Intervener or any regulation, order, requirement, or agreement issued or made under such statute or executive order. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 24(b)(2).

Dr. Halderman was granted access to Georgia's voting system for this litigation, and not for the purpose of filing reports with CISA or marketing it to various governmental entities and other individuals.<sup>1</sup> Moreover,

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<sup>1</sup> Testimony of Dr. Halderman before the Louisiana Voting System Commission, Part 3, at 1:10:00, (Dec. 14, 2021) *available at*

Intervener has not requested information from Dominion about the report, although Dominion is a vendor of the State of Louisiana. Intervener may have a general interest in Dr. Halderman's report, but that is not a reason for this Court to grant Intervener's motion.

Finally, if Intervener is allowed to intervene in this case for the limited purpose of obtaining access to Dr. Halderman's sealed expert report,

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<https://www.loom.com/share/d784b2995ead4cc69bf596bae3d1ce75> ("CLARY: Do we have any idea when that report will become publicly available? HALDERMAN: Um, that is, uh, that is, uh, the jurisdiction of the court. So the federal court in Georgia. CLARY: Okay. Thank You. HALDERMAN: The, I will, I will point out that the, um, the judge in that case has, uh, has said that she would be receptive to requests from other states to, uh, receive a copy of the report for mitigating problems in their own systems. Um, if they're able to assure the court that it's confidentiality will be maintained"); Testimony of Col. Phil Waldron before the Louisiana Voting System Commission, Part 1, at 44:40, (Dec. 14, 2021) *available at* <https://www.loom.com/share/bcdc6751e11f4f7a8f2dc77c486c162f> (WALDRON: "And then, uh, professor Halderman, I believe, is going to speak in here just a little bit, uh, also identified vulnerabilities in a specific piece of the elections system, ... his report is under protective order for the court. Um, he is recommended, I believe that's in Georgia. Uh, he has recommended that that information be released to DHS CISA so that they can mitigate the vulnerabilities. Um, Louisiana is one of the states that is, uh, listed in his report. Um, I think that's a great step, but I think it needs to go a step further, that information needs to be released to the public and the citizens who have that responsibility to understand what their voting system is.") *see also* Emma Brown, *Phil Waldron, Backer of Jan. 6 PowerPoint, is Invited to Speak to Louisiana Voting Panel*, Washington Post, (Dec. 14, 2021 at 7:44 p.m. EST) [https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/phil-waldron-powerpoint-louisiana-voting/2021/12/14/e2fa4aaa-5cec-11ec-bda6-25c1f558dd09\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/phil-waldron-powerpoint-louisiana-voting/2021/12/14/e2fa4aaa-5cec-11ec-bda6-25c1f558dd09_story.html) (discussing testimony before the Commission).

Intervener should be subject to the Protective Order, [Doc. 477], and confirm that the report will not be subject to production under Louisiana's open records laws. The report contains sensitive, non-public information about Georgia's voting system that Dr. Halderman only has access to due to the special access that he was given by the Court.

Respectfully submitted, this 5th day of January 2022.

/s/ Vincent Russo

Vincent R. Russo  
Georgia Bar No. 242628  
vrusso@robbinsfirm.com  
Josh Belinfante  
Georgia Bar No. 047399  
jbelinfante@robbinsfirm.com  
Carey A. Miller  
Georgia Bar No. 976240  
cmiller@robbinsfirm.com  
Alexander Denton  
Georgia Bar No. 660632  
adenton@robbinsfirm.com  
Javier Pico-Prats  
Georgia Bar No. 664717  
Robbins Ross Alloy Belinfante Littlefield LLC  
500 14th Street, N.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30318  
Telephone: (678) 701-9381  
Facsimile: (404) 856-3255

Bryan P. Tyson  
Georgia Bar No. 515411  
btyson@taylorenglish.com  
Jonathan D. Crumly  
Georgia Bar No. 199466  
jcrumly@taylorenglish.com

James A. Balli  
Georgia Bar No. 035828  
jballi@taylorenglish.com  
Diane F. LaRoss  
Georgia Bar No. 430830  
dlaross@taylorenglish.com  
Bryan F. Jacoutot  
Georgia Bar No. 668272  
bjacoutot@taylorenglish.com  
Loree Anne Paradise  
Georgia Bar No. 382202  
lparadise@taylorenglish.com  
TAYLOR ENGLISH DUMA LLP  
1600 Parkwood Circle, Suite 200  
Atlanta, GA 30339  
Telephone: 678-336-7249

*Counsel for State Defendants*

**LOCAL RULE 7.1(D) CERTIFICATION**

I certify that this STATE DEFENDANTS' RESPONSE TO THE LIMITED MOTION TO INTERVENE BY R. KYLE ARDOIN, in his official capacity as the LOUISIANA SECRETARY OF STATE, has been prepared with one of the font and point selections approved by the Court in Local Rule 5.1. Specifically, this document has been prepared using 13-pt Century Schoolbook font and type.

*/s/ Vincent Russo*